



Vol. 2, Issue 2, February 2019

# IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan  
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford  
Lt. Governor

Colonel William Pallozzi  
Superintendent

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Col. William Pallozzi and Gov. Larry Hogan stand with members of the MSP 148th Trooper Candidate Class at the 2019 Police Plunge.

## MSP Polar Bear Plunge Raises More Than \$2 Million For Special Olympics Maryland

(ANNAPOLIS, Md.) — It was another successful year for the annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge.

The MSP Plunge is part of Plungefest, held this year from Jan. 24 to 26 at Sandy Point State Park. The events raised nearly \$2.5 million for Special Olympics Maryland.

In all, more than 10,000 plungers braved the frozen Chesapeake Bay in support of the nearly 8,000 Special Olympics Maryland athletes who train and compete free of charge

throughout the state.

State troopers were among the hundreds of law enforcement personnel who participated in the Police Plunge. The 148th Maryland State Police Trooper Candidate Class won the trophy for top police academy class in the Police Plunge, after raising nearly \$16,000.

The event also included the Pee Wee, Cool Schools and Corporate plunges which all led up to the main plunge on Jan. 26th.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## PHOTOS: 2019 Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics



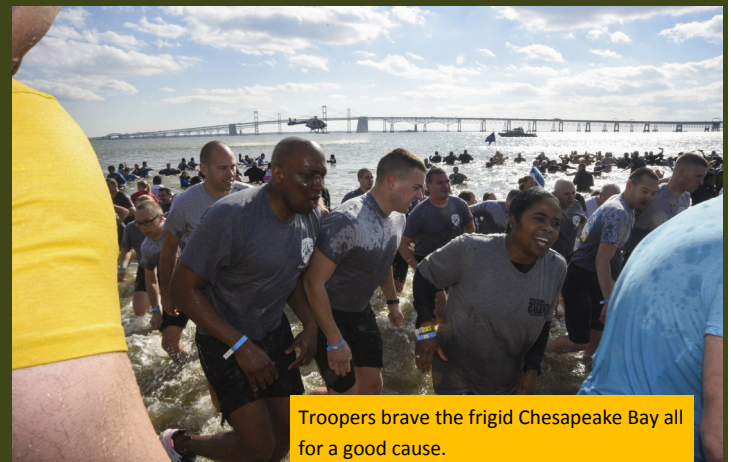
The 148th Trooper Candidate Class raised nearly \$16,000 for Special Olympics MD.



Members of the Golden Ring Barrack prepare to plunge into the Chesapeake Bay.



The 148th Academy Class stand at Sandy Point State Park prior to the Police Plunge.



Troopers brave the frigid Chesapeake Bay all for a good cause.

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## Maryland State Police Celebrates 98 Years of Being 'Ever Vigilant, Always Prepared'

(PIKESVILLE, Md). — Members past and present of the Maryland State Police gathered on Jan. 10 to celebrate the 98th anniversary of the department.

The legacy of the nearly century of Maryland State Police service to the citizens of the state was highlighted during the ceremony. It included remembering fallen heroes and civilian employees to recognizing how far the department has grown since then-Gov. Albert C. Ritchie organized the first training class of the Maryland State Police that began on Jan. 10, 1921.

statewide patrol and relentless enforcement of criminal and traffic laws. This directive has not changed and remains the focus of what we do each day. We are proud of our tradition of excellence in serving and protecting the people of Maryland.

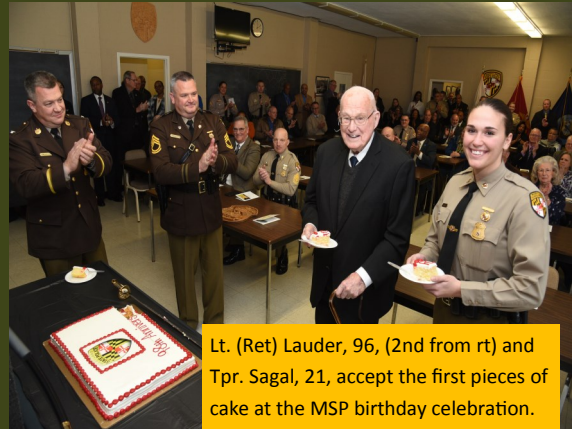
Today, the department is a full-service law enforcement agency that includes nearly 2,400 sworn and civilian employees who provide a wide range of services to the people of Maryland.

As a State Police force, we work to coordinate efforts between local and federal law enforcement. Our statewide initiatives include reducing traffic crashes, drunk driving, aggressive driving, unsafe vehicles, and other threats to highway safety.

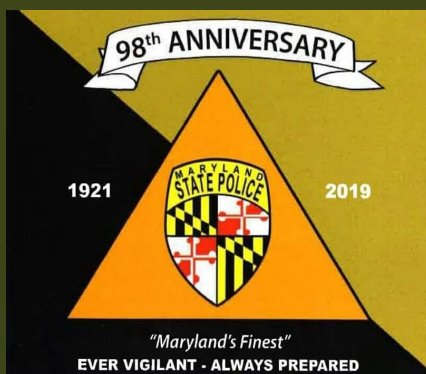
Concurrently, our criminal enforcement emphasis is on cross-border and inter-jurisdictional

crime that involves illegal drug importation and distribution, apprehending fugitives, and reducing violent crime..

Whether you live here, are visiting, or are just traveling through our state, you can be assured the members of the Maryland State Police are on the job protecting, preventing, and providing. They are committed to protecting you and your family, preventing criminal acts and traffic crashes, and providing outstanding law enforcement services.



Lt. (Ret) Lauder, 96, (2nd from rt) and Tpr. Sagal, 21, accept the first pieces of cake at the MSP birthday celebration.



The Maryland State Police was charged with reducing crime and highway tragedies through

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# IMPACT UPDATE



## Crash Scene Turns Into Delivery Room In Prince George's County

(COLLEGE PARK, Md.) - A Maryland State Police trooper was at the right place at the right time as he helped deliver a baby last month on the side of a busy highway in Prince George's County.

At about 11 p.m. on Jan. 14, Trooper Esai Cunningham, assigned to the College Park Barrack,

had responded to a report of a collision on the outer loop of the Washington Beltway at the I-95 split in College Park, Maryland. While on the scene, another vehicle pulled up to the crash location and the driver told Trooper Cunningham his female passenger was in active labor.

Trooper Cunningham called for EMS assistance, but before medical crews could arrive, he had already helped the 21-year-old woman deliver a baby boy. The mother and her newborn son were transported by ambulance to Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Maryland. Both are doing well.

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# IMPACT UPDATE

## Safety Tip of the Month

While the weather is cold this time of year, it's important to remember not to leave your vehicle running unattended in order to warm it up. According to the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, 50 percent of vehicles stolen had the keys inside the vehicle.



## Traffic Stop Leads To Drug Arrest Of Three Men In Frederick County

(FREDERICK, Md.) – Maryland State Police are continuing to investigate after a traffic stop for a suspended registration on January 4 led to the arrest of three men now charged with attempting to smuggle nearly five pounds of cocaine through Frederick County.

The suspects, Michael William Hall, 34, Terry Hall Jr., 42, both of Baltimore and Antwan Alexander Hall, 30, of Essex, Md. are charged with possession of cocaine, two counts of pos-

session with intent to distribute cocaine and related weapons offenses, including the use of a firearm in a drug trafficking crime and the illegal possession of a firearm by a previously convicted felon. All three suspects, who are siblings, were held without bail at the Frederick County Detention Center.

Shortly after 2:50 a.m. on January 4, a trooper from the Frederick Barrack initiated a traffic stop on westbound I-70 west of Route 340.

During the course of the traffic stop, a K-9 scan by a member of the Frederick County Sheriff's Office led to the discovery of drugs, cash and a firearm. All of those items were located in a manmade hidden compartment underneath the front passenger seat.

The Maryland State Police Criminal Enforcement Division is assisting with the ongoing investigation.

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# IMPACT UPDATE

## Traffic Stop Results In Two Arrests As MSP Disrupts A Heroin Distribution Operation

(PERRYVILLE, MD) – A traffic stop led to two arrests as Maryland State Police investigators disrupted a drug trafficking and distribution operation in Cecil County.

The accused are identified as Todd Powell, 33 and Heather Adkins, 34, of Perryville, Maryland. Both are charged with multiple illegal drug violations to include: possession with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance (heroin, cocaine), possession of methamphetamine and marijuana and possession of a large amount of heroin.

After further investigation, additional charges were placed against Powell. He was also charged with possession of a firearm, prohibited person/possession of a firearm, prohibited person/possession of ammunition.

Both Powell and Adkins were arrested without incident on scene and were being held without bond at the Cecil County Detention Center.

The arrests of the two suspects occurred at 1:15 a.m. on Jan. 9, during a routine traffic stop on High Street in Elkton for multiple traffic violations. While conducting the traffic stop, troopers noticed several indicators of criminal activity. A State Police K-9 scan of the vehicle was requested from North East Barrack and resulted in the detection of narcotics that included:

- 296 individually packaged bags of heroin hidden in a magnetic container attached to the vehicle's engine compartment
- Four individual bags of cocaine
- One individual bag of crystal methamphetamine
- Two glass jars containing marijuana
- Cash believed to be related to the drug distribution operation

The investigation was led by the Maryland State Police Gang Enforcement Unit.

Information developed during the investigation led to a court-ordered search of Powell's residence in the 700 block of Aiken Avenue in Perryville, Maryland. During the search, additional narcotics and weapons were discovered.



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# IMPACT UPDATE

## Princess Anne Barrack Helps Reunite Family With Lost Dog



Banjo was reunited with his family after getting loose on Christmas. The wire-haired terrier was found thanks in part to the effort of the Princess Anne Barrack.

(PRINCESS ANNE, Md.) — A Princess Anne family had a tough Christmas after their wire-haired terrier went missing.

The dog, named Banjo, was last seen in the Westover area of Route 13. Troopers from the Princess Anne Barrack posted photos of Banjo on the barrack's Facebook page and kept an eye out for him while out on patrol.

Troopers reported seeing Banjo at about 11:30 p.m. on Dec. 28 near Walter Johnson Road in Westover. However, the dog got scared when troopers

attempted to catch him and ran away.

Banjo was finally located on New Year's Eve and was reunited safely with his family.

"Banjo is home....," posted family member Jasonlala Hancock on the Princess Anne Barrack Facebook page.. "Our family would like to thank you so much for the determination you showed to get Banjo back to his family. We would love to shake your hand and thank you in person very soon."

## Leonardtown Barrack Trooper Set For Military Deployment

(LEONARDTOWN, Md.) — Trooper Anthony Piscopo-Bann, who is assigned to the Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack, was recently recognized as he prepared to leave his police duties to assume his military role as a staff sergeant during his deployment with the United States Army Calvary Regiment.

The Maryland State Police family thanks Tpr. Piscopo-Bann for his service to our country and wishes him success in his missions and a safe return.

We look forward to him returning and resuming his duties with "Maryland's finest" at the Leonardtown Barrack.



Trooper Anthony Piscopo-Bann has been recalled to military duty with the United States Army Calvary Regiment

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## Three-Vehicle Crash Highlights The Importance of Maryland's 'Move Over' Laws

(ROCKVILLE, Md.) - A crash on Jan. 2 in Montgomery County highlighted the importance of motorists adhering to the state's "Move Over" law.

The crash occurred shortly before 6:15 a.m. when the suspect crashed into three Maryland State Police cruisers at the scene of the arrest of a suspected impaired driver on Interstate 270 north in Rockville, Md.

Maryland's "Move Over" laws require drivers approaching from the rear of an emergency vehicle using visual signals while stopped on a highway to, if possible, make a lane change into an available lane not immediately adjacent to the emergency vehicle.

This movement should only be done if another lane in the same direction is available and the move can be made safely and

without impeding other traffic. If moving to another lane away from the stopped emergency vehicle is not possible, the law requires drivers to slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for existing weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions.

It is hoped drivers will become more aware of police and emergency workers stopped along the road and move away from them or slow down as they pass by the traffic stop or incident scene.

Motorists appear to have gotten the message. Since 2014, troopers went from issuing 5,408 citations and 12,179 warnings to issuing 1,349 citations and 5,677 warnings in 2018.

Under Maryland Vehicle Law, emergency vehicles are defined as:

- Vehicles of federal,



state, or local law enforcement agencies;

- Vehicles of volunteer fire companies, rescue squads, fire departments, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute;
- State vehicles used in response to oil or hazardous materials spills;
- State vehicles designated for emergency use by the Commissioner of Correction;
- Ambulances;
- Transportation, service and utility vehicles, as well as waste and recycling trucks,

with yellow or amber flashing lights or signal devices.

- Special vehicles funded or provided by federal, state, or local government and used for emergency or rescue purposes in Maryland.

Violation of the 'move over' law is a primary offense with a fine of \$110 and one point. If the violation contributes to a traffic crash, the fine is \$150 and three points. If the violation contributes to a traffic crash resulting in death or serious injury, the fine is \$750 and three points.

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# IMPACT UPDATE



## Champions On Patrol Partners Troopers With Special Olympians

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) — The Maryland State Police partnership with and support of Special Olympics Maryland is well known through events such as the Polar Bear Plunge and the Torch Run. However, the partnership goes far beyond those events and is being addressed at a truly personal level.

The two organizations recently re-launched the Champions on Patrol program, initiated by the Maryland State Police. The program provides interested children and adults who have intellectual disabilities the opportunity to spend time with members of the Maryland State Police in an effort to enrich the lives of both athletes and police employees.

Among those to take advantage of the program is Nick Stewart. Nick recently visited the Waterloo Barrack, where he was paired up with First Sgt. Jonathan Novack. First, Nick toured the barrack and got to meet several personnel including the barrack commander, Lt. Gary Carpenter. As part of the tour, Nick got the opportunity to have a seat on an MSP Harley Davidson motorcycle and several other pieces of specialized equipment. After that, Nick and F/Sgt. Novack went on patrol in his neighborhood before having lunch at Mission BBQ.

TFC Follin from the Glen Burnie Barrack recently hosted Elaina Camacho, an athlete from Anne Arundel County. Elaina has participated in Special Olympics since 1997 and competes in basketball, bowling, snowshoeing, soccer and swimming. Thank you Nick and Elaina for the outstanding example of enthusiasm, dedication and an undaunted spirit you are to your friends in the Maryland State Police and all of Maryland law enforcement.

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## MSP Provides Active Shooter Response Training To WJZ

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) — From the 1999 Columbine High School massacre, the Virginia Tech tragedy in 2007, to the 2017 Las Vegas shooting when a gunman opened fire on a crowd of concertgoers, the headlines across our nation have broadened the definition of emergency preparedness. Whether a natural or human-caused disaster, every school, every workplace, every organization should be prepared for an emergency. Citizens need to be prepared for those incidents involving an active shooter and the Maryland State Police is helping them to be ready.

Since 2002, Texas State University has been using the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Program (ALERRT) to train police how to respond to dangerous situations. Due to its success in shortening response time for police, a new program was created to teach citizens how to respond.

To date, F/Sgt Jonathan Hill, assigned to MSP's Education and Training Division, has provided



F/Sgt. Jonathan Hill recently educated staff at WJZ-TV on how to respond during an active shooter situation.

the in-person and online training to thousands of law enforcement personnel and civilians in Maryland. The course he teaches, Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE), explains the actions to take when confronted with an active shooter and how to respond to law enforcement officials.

Hill recently explained to his students, a roomful of WJZ-TV employees, "Ever since the 1999 Columbine High School shooting, police have changed the way they respond to active shooter incidents." He talks about what happens physically and psychologically in the human body and what we go through when disaster strikes.

He points out the importance of situational awareness, a critical key to safety. An important strategy is to maintain an awareness of your immediate surroundings and the impact of your or other's actions. His presentation also includes three words to remember: avoid, deny and defend.

TSU's program has been used to train law enforcement personnel across the nation in how to respond to these dangerous situations. The avoid, deny, defend approach was subsequently created to help citizens respond. To learn more about the Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE), visit [avoiddenydefend.org](http://avoiddenydefend.org).

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